# Local business fills youthful need

Back in 1978, the young people in Appomattox often had it difficult finding something to do in their spare time at night and on weekends.

Fred Jones, whose well-drilling business has been a fixture in Appomattox for many years, was aware of this problem,and he had an idea which he felt might help eliminate it.

So he set about building a roller skating rink in Appomattox on a parcel of his land along Route 24, and in December of 1978, A.J. Skateworld opened its doors to young and old alike in Appomattox County.

The facility, which covers 25,000 square feet, is the largest between Richmond and Roanoke. And the business has been so successful that Jones has built two more such facilities, one in Brookneal and one in Altavista.

Jack Layne, Jones' son-in-law, manages the skating rink. "One of the reasons the business has been so successful is that we operate on a family-oriented basis," notes Layne.

"We get a lot of church groups, scout groups and groups from other youth organizations who like our atmosphere," notes Freda Layne, Jack's wife and Fred's daughter. Freda helps Jack run the business. She also teaches at Appomattox Elementary School.

"We get a lot of groups from outside Appomattox County: from Lynchburg, Farmville, and the surrounding counties. Sometimes, we get them from as far away as Charlottesville," notes Jack. Aside from the atmosphere, the groups are attracted to A.J. Skateworld by special group rates. And, Jack notes, church groups get a free admittance pass to return as a group after each paid visit.

On Monday and Wednesday evenings, the skating rink can be rented for private use. Groups renting he building get unlimited use of the skating rink, and can enjoy the various video games and the snack bar in the building.

The rink is also used frequently by groups sponsoring "skate-a-thons" to raise money for various causes and charities. In March, for example, benefits for Juvenile Diabetes and the Heart Fund were conducted at A.J. Skateworld. "We don't charge rental for groups conducting benefit fundraisers," Jack says.

Along with the skating rink, the arcade games and the full service snack bar, A.J. Skateworld features a sport shop where all types of roller skates and skating accessories are sold.

"Aside from the management, we employ six rink guards, most of whom are students from the high school," notes Jack. In addition, three adults are employed in the skating rink's snack bar.

"Fred is strict on behaviour," notes Jack. If someone causes trouble or disobeys the rules of the skating rink, they may be asked to leave.

On any given night, one is likely to see adults as well as youths circling the skating rink. It is good exercise, and a not-terribly-expensive way to spend an evening.

"At one time, we experimented with an adult night, and it went over well for a while," notes Jack. "But interest dwindled. The majority of our business comes from kids age 16 and under."

"That's really what it was intended for in the first place," Jack concludes. "Fred just wanted to provide a wholesome atmosphere for young people to have a good time in."

## Manor provides elderly with attention and care

Babcock Manor, A Home Away From Home, is owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. H. Webster Babcock and managed by Mrs. Patricia Babcock Paulette. Mrs. Betty Martin is assistant manager.

A home for adults, Babcock Manor is situated on three acres located on highway 691. The home opened its doors to the first residents in 1978. Offering a choice of private and semi-private rooms, Babcock Manor has a capacity for 32 residents.

Personal consideration is given to the nutritional needs of each resident and carefully planned meals offer a variety in dining.

"We put forth every effort to make Babcock Manor truly a Home Away From Home," said Mrs. Paulette.

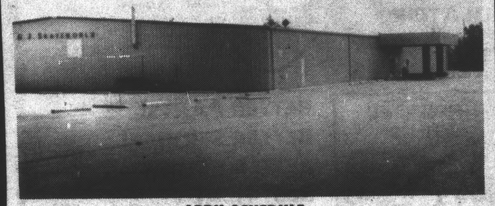
"Personal care and consideration for the individual needs of the residents are always uppermost in our minds," continued Mrs. Paulette.

Residents are encouraged to attend church and various area ministers conduct devotional periods weekly. Other activities are planned for the enjoyment of the

(Continued on page 27)

Pat Paulette, Webb Babcock and Betty Martin (from left to right).

SPRING ROLLER SKATING



APRIL SCHEDULE

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MON. | PRIVATE PARTIES | FRI. | 7 - 11 |
| TUES. | 7 - 10 | SAT. | 7 - 11 |
| WED. | PRIVATE PARTIES | SUN. | 2 - 9 |
| THURS. | 7 - 10 | | |

A. J. SKATEWORLD

RT. 24 — APPOMATTOX

PH: 352-2270



Home Away From Home

HOME FOR ADULTS EXPERIENCED STAFF

Mrs. Lucy Kidd, (left) resident, Mrs. Pat Paulette, (center) Babcock Manor manager, and Ryland Pugh, (right) check out the bingo game.

H. Webster Babcock, owner and operator of Babcock Manor chats with Rosa Gregory and Nannie Richardson.

Babcock Manor

Highway 691—Appomattox

PHONE 352-8686




# Tolley's continues tradition of quality

Tolley's Market, located on Business Route 460 in Pamplin, opened its doors for business in February of 1982 with Joyce Tolley as owner and operator.

Tolley, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hunter Tolley of Pamplin, purchased the store from William (Billy) and Dot Harvey of Cullen who had operated the business in the Pamplin location for approximately 20 years.

Tolley's Market offers a full line of fresh meat and fresh produce as well as fresh seafood. The shopper may choose from a wide selection of frozen foods, beverages and staple groceries.

Tolley, whose family owns and operates Tolley's Liquid Fertilizer in Pamplin and who, at one time owned and operated Pamplin Exxon, has more or less been reared in an atmosphere of merchantilism. In addition to the experience she gained in the family businesses, she worked in a grocery store for two years as a youth.

"We are striving to maintain the same high standards for which the store has been known over the past years, offering the shopper the best in produce and service," said Tolley.

# Local hardware's history is rich

(Continued from page 11)

shelves of the hardware store.

After World War I, the store began to grow, literally, as the company purchased the two adjacent buildings, the old H.M. Burge and Co. grocery store, and the building which had housed H.C. Babcock's general store.

With the purchase of the general store, Appomattox Hardware also bought the annex building between the hardware and the general store. This annex had housed a number of offices, including that of Dr. D.A. Christian, and that of an insurance company.

The annex building was removed, so that trucks could get into the back lot of the hardware company to unload.

When Sunny went to at the hardware store in 1931, Tad Sears was still the manager, and other workers there included O.W. Martin, Sr., Tom Martin, Bob Martin, Frank Dresser and C.C. Poe.

The business continued to grow throughout the 1930s, 1910s and 1950s. In 1951, Appomattox Truck and Tractor was organized as an offshoot of the hardware company. It was set up as a separate corporation to allow more room for sales and service of farm equipment.

The company also aquired more property during those years, including property in the downtown area formerly owned by H.C. Pulliam, as well as several rental sites along Main Street.

Appomattox Hardware continues as an integral part of the local economy today, employing 18 people, many of whom have been with the company for numerous years.

Appomattox Hardware represents Amoco Oil Company, and is distributor for Amoco fuel oil, kerosene, diesel fuel, gasoline and motor oil.

Besides a full line of hardware, the business offers General Electric and Maytag appliances, Jacuzzi water systems, Comet Snapper Mowers and Merrytill-ers.

The company operates two back hoes for drainfield and ditching service, does furnace and plumbing repair work, and operates a small engine repair shop.

The multitude of products and services offered at Appomattox Hardware Company are partly responsible for the longevity of this, the oldest business in Appomattox.

More important, however, has been the attitude of the company toward the community in general, and its customers in particular.

As Sunny points out, "It has been our goal throughout the years to offer a wide range of merchandise, with reasonable prices, and good service."

And after 73 years, it is obvious that Appomattox Hardware Company has been successful in reaching and sustaining that goal.

## Brandy Ann is Pamplin's newest industry

Brandy Ann Manufacturing, Pamplin's newest industry, opened for production on January 1, 1983. Jim Webb, with approximately 20 years experience in the garment industry is plant manager.

The company, which makes children's clothing, has approximately 50 employees. Most of the workers are from the Pamplin area.

"We have plans for expansion," said Webb, "we certainly have the room for it."

The new garment factory is located in the old Pamplin school building.


Modern Facilities . . .

HOME OWNED AND OPERATED

OFFERING FULL LINE OF

•Fresh Meat •Produce •Staples

•Groceries •Gasoline •Oil

ABC OFF

Tolley's Market

248-6131

Hwy. 460—Business nplin, Va.



Pride In Our Community... And In Our Work

We are proud to be Pamplin's newest industry and equally proud of our growing community!

Brandy Ann Manufacturing

PAMPLIN, VA.